

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 01744 130012 Z

72

ACTION ARA-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 PM-03 IO-03 L-02 EUR-10 NSC-10

NSCE-00 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01

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R 122359 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9405

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 1744

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, ES, HON, NU

SUBJECT: HONDURAS- SALVADOR DISPUTE: MEETING OF PRESIDENTS
ARANA AND MOLINA.

REF: MANAGUA 1988

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH ACTING FONMIN ALFREDO OBIOLS
THIS AFTERNOON SUBJECT TURNED TO HONDURAS- SALVADOR DIS-
PUTE. CONFIRMING CONTENT REFTEL HE SAID THAT MEETING
BETWEEN PRESIDENTS ARANA AND MOLINA AT GUATEMALA CITY
AIRPORT APRIL 6 WHICH HE ATTENDED, HAD DEALT EXCLUSIVELY
WITH BILATERAL DISPUTE AND NOT OTHER ISSUES AS REPORTED
TO PRESS.

2. OBIOLS STATED THAT INITIATIVE FOR MEETING HAD BEEN
PRESIDENT ARANA'S WHO HAS DECIDED TO TAKE MORE VIGOROUS
ACTION IN TRYING TO BRING ABOUT SETTLEMENT. IN RESPONSE
TO MY INQUIRY WHAT THAT ACTION MIGHT BE, OBIOLS INDI-
CATED THAT IT HAD TO DO WITH PERSUADING TWO SIDES TO
REACH AGREEMENT ON A FORMULA TO " ARBITRATE" TWO REMAIN-
ING UNDECIDED PORTIONS OF FRONTIER. OBIOLS REPORTED
PRES. MOLINA ARGUED IN FAVOR OF NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT
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PAGE 02 GUATEM 01744 130012 Z

ON GROUNDS THAT SALVADOR CONSTITUTION STIPULATES THAT NATIONAL TERRITORY IS IRREDUCIBLE AND THEREFORE CANNOT BE SUBJECT OF ARBITRATION. PRES. ARANA COUNTERED THAT IF BORDER IS IN DISPUTE (WHICH GOES RECOGNIZES) AND THEREFORE NOT FIXED, IRREDUCIBILITY ARGUMENT DOES NOT APPLY SINCE LIMITS OF WHAT BELONGS TO EACH COUNTRY STILL NOT FIXED. OBIOLS NOTED THAT GOH NEEDS SOME FORM OF ARBITRATION FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS.

3. ACTING FONMIN ONFIED THAT PRESIDENT ARANA WILL FLY TO TEGUCIGALPA IN " VERY NEAR FUTURE" TO TALK TO GENERAL LOPEZ ARELLANO. HE ASKED THAT THIS BE TIGHTLY HELD.

GDS.
BOWDLER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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